

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرائي

## Articles of press law approved

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament resumed Sunday its debate of the draft law on press and publication. The House approved article 43 of the law as it was drafted by the government. The article stipulates that government institutions, universities and research centres should receive the approval of the director of the publications department before importing any banned publications. The House also approved article 44 as recommended by its Law Committee, banning the publication of court proceedings before the final verdict is issued by the court except by a court permission. The House also approved articles 45 to 51, which include an article prohibiting newspaper employees from receiving any local or foreign assistance, and sent article 52 back to the Law Committee for further study. The article includes punishments for violators of the law. The House also decided to refer the State Security Court law to the Law Committee to study.

AMMAN MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1992, JUMADA AL THANI 19, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Jardaneh presents '93 budget with dramatic reduction in deficit

### Finance minister predicts positive economic performance, improved local revenues and progress in battle against unemployment



Bassem Jarrah

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's economic growth in 1993 will not reach the levels attained in 1992 but the country will still witness a positive economic performance and high level of economic activities, Finance Minister Bassem Jarrah said Sunday.

prices and if indirect taxes are included.

Presenting the 1993 draft budget to the Lower House of Parliament, Mr. Jarrah predicted a continued decrease of inflation and unemployment and a low deficit in both monetary and real terms.

expenditure in 1992 — with JD 987.7 million in current expenses and JD 340.3 million in capital expenditure.

The draft budget, which the House referred to its Finance Committee, projected a pre-financing deficit of JD 47.9 million, a 55 per cent decrease from the projected 1992 deficit.

"witness a tangible improvement."

Mr. Jarrah expected no change in the country's foreign indebtedness but said the exchange rate of the dinar is expected to remain stable and remittances from Jordanian expatriates were expected to go up.

## Marines fly to Somali interior; aid ship docks at Mogadishu

MOGADISHU (Agencies) — U.S. Marines swooped into the interior of Somalia for the first time Sunday while a U.N. food ship packed with grain docked in Mogadishu.

Thrusting out of the capital, 230 U.S. Marines in 12 helicopters flew to Baidoa, about 160 kilometres west of the capital, halfway to Baidoa.

A day after U.S. forces destroyed three Somali vehicles after two helicopter gunships were fired on, the commander of the U.S. task force in Somalia said the military deployment was going "exactly as we planned."

## Israeli soldier held hostage

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Muslim fundamentalists claimed to have kidnapped an Israeli policeman Sunday and threatened to kill him unless their spiritual leader was freed from an Israeli prison.

The army said a sergeant major, Nissim Toledano, was missing and may be kidnapped. A statement by the kidnappers said he would be killed at 9 p.m. (1900 GMT) if their demand was not met.

## King in Washington on private visit

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor have begun a private visit to Washington during which the King is expected to meet with Jordan's delegation to peace talks with Israel as well as senior officials of the outgoing U.S. administration, possibly President George Bush himself.

The King and Queen flew to Washington Saturday from Rochester, Minnesota, where the King underwent a medical check-up at the Mayo Clinic. His personal physician, Dr. Samir Farraj, said the King had fully recovered from the surgery he underwent in August.

Mayo surgeons removed the King's ureter in August after discovering a cancerous growth. The King's left kidney also was removed to isolate malignancy. Doctors said then that they expected a full recovery.

## 3 Palestinians, Israeli killed in surging violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Three Palestinians and an Israeli soldier were killed on the weekend as the toll mounted in the bloodiest two weeks of unrest in the occupied territories since the start of Middle East peace talks.

The deaths Saturday and Sunday raised the total this month to 11 Palestinians and five Israelis, with mass demonstrations against Israeli occupation shaking the Gaza Strip and Palestinians ambushing Israeli troops.

Gaza withdrawal proposed

Israeli ministers proposed on Sunday the army withdraw from the occupied Gaza Strip. The idea to withdraw Israeli forces before a permanent agreement on the occupied territories is reached was floated after three Israeli soldiers were killed in an ambush last week.

## Israeli, Palestinian water experts to continue talks

ZURICH (R) — Israeli and Palestinian scientists at a conference on the problems of sharing Middle East water resources failed to reach substantial agreement on major issues, but said Sunday they planned to go on talking.

The four-day academic conference in Zurich was the first of its kind.

## Opposition blames Sanaa for riots

SANAA (R) — A coalition of Yemeni opposition parties accused the government Sunday of turning peaceful demonstrations into riots and said it would carry out its own investigation to punish those responsible.

## Edinburgh summit revives EC

EDINBURGH (R) — On the eve of the single market, the European Community (EC) has scored a sorely needed summit triumph by rescuing its Maastricht Treaty and clinching a budget deal that will finance its union plans until the end of the century.

The 12 EC leaders wrapped up their meeting late on Saturday night with a string of accords designed to advance political and monetary union, boost the sluggish European economy and settle the vexed issue of the sites of the EC's major institutions.

Minister Poul Schluter which makes clear that they are not bound to be part of a single currency or a common defence.

## New Sudanese rebel group to be set up

CAIRO (AP) — A group of disbanded Sudanese political parties will soon establish a new anti-government alliance aimed at overthrowing the military regime by a popular uprising, Sudanese opposition leaders said Sunday.

The new group, which will be officially founded in London next month, will comprise mainly the centrist Umma Party and Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), both with Islamic tendencies, the Communist Party and a number of smaller parties.

## Egypt: No mercy for Muslim militants

CAIRO (R) — Egypt, in a communique published on Sunday, vowed no mercy in its nationwide offensive ordered by President Hosni Mubarak to crush Islamic extremism.

The government has decided to proceed... mercilessly with its strikes on the roots of terrorism to rid Egypt from this lost group," said a cabinet statement published in newspapers after a weekly meeting Saturday night.

the militants began attacking foreign tourists to deprive the state of a key source of income.

## Egypt doubles border posts

Egypt has doubled to 20 its border posts in a disputed border area with Sudan, a Defence Ministry source said Sunday.

## Budget

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## Boudiaf assailant keeps his secret

ALGIERS (R) — The killer of Algerian head of state Mohamed Boudiaf emerged this weekend in an inquiry team's report as an intelligent and cold-blooded Muslim.

But after months of interrogation, the mystery behind the assassination remained.

Identical well-read and self-confident, Lembarek Boumaraf, the 26-year-old second-lieutenant named as Boudiaf's assassin, "held his head high to his questioners...vigorously reflecting before replying and saying only what he wanted to tell them," the report said.

Boumaraf last June carried out the Arab World's most spectacular assassination since Egypt's Anwar Sadat was slain in 1981.

The report made public at the weekend showed that behind the self-confidence lay the frustration of a man raging against perceived injustices.

"He came from a poor and mediocre family which he struggled hard to help," the six investigators reported.

"Feelings of frustration born from family poverty were embittered at Kolesa school of cadets of the revolution and in the army in

the face of certain inequalities and injustice."

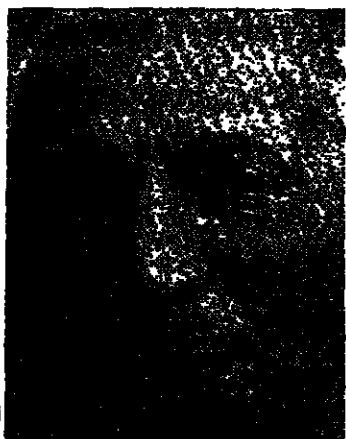
Since his capture in the eastern town of Annaba, where he shot Boudiaf in the head with two bursts of six or seven bullets and blasted his leg with a grenade, Boumaraf has been interrogated by security force specialists, psychiatrists and the commission members.

After 1988, when then-president Chadli Benjedid broke the monopoly of the one-party ruling system to allow opposition, speeches by Islamic fundamentalists found a ready ear in Boumaraf.

"Like thousands of young of his age, even in the army, he was able logically to adhere to the Islamic ideology, more exactly that of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) party," the commission said.

The comment was the most open official declaration of the FIS appeal to many of Algeria's 14 million young, taking in the armed forces who are overwhelmingly seen as the country's main barrier against the fundamentalist movement.

The FIS was banned after elections which the group appeared



Mohamed Boudiaf

certain to win were cancelled earlier this year. Fundamentalists and security forces are now engaged in a cat-and-mouse struggle in which 170 security personnel have been killed since last February.

Boumaraf was not "in a state of insanity" at the moment he struck, the psychiatrists had concluded.

But his interrogation threw up contradictions. He spoke of planning to kill Benjedid, former In-

terior Minister Larbi Belkheir and Defence Minister Khaled Nezzar "responsible in his eyes for the deplorable situation of the people. Yet he did not try while he seems to have had the chance."

"He pretended to defend the oppressed but also declared that, taking part in the anti-terrorist struggle, in repression, that he had always done his work 'normally,'" the report said.

"He coldly killed in the back a man of 73, a hero of (the) Nov. 1 (revolution) but said he surrendered after flight to avoid having to fight police and gendarmes; men of the people like himself."

The commission said Boumaraf was the only actual killer but admitted it could not accept he acted purely on his own.

A letter found in his pocket, written about the killing but before he struck, was in his writing.

But, according to one of his close friends it "is not in his language, they are not his ideas. I know Boumaraf as a pious Muslim but without zeal."

"The commission is thus led to consider that Boumaraf did not act alone, that behind him there were instigators, a group, an organisation," the report said.

## Burg says racism in Israel similar to that in Germany

The Jerusalem Post

ALMOST 40 per cent of Israeli Jews support violence against Arabs in response to acts of Arab terrorism, while close to 30 per cent favour exerting pressure on Arabs to leave the country, according to a survey released Friday by the Knesset education committee to mark International Human Rights Day.

Sixty per cent of those surveyed agreed when asked if hatred and violence against minorities in Israel could be compared to the current situation in Germany.

"We can no longer ignore the fact that there is racism and xenophobia in Israel similar to what is going on in Germany and France," said committee chairman Avraham Burg (Labour), who commissioned the survey.

The education ministry must allocate more funds, energy and manpower into the unit for teaching democracy and coexistence, he said.

Burg was especially critical of the religious educational streams, since religious and traditional individuals questioned were the most extreme in their responses.

"We have to shake the ground under religious education," he said.

The survey, conducted by Tel-Aviv University's representative sample of 501 Israeli Jews. According to the results, 28.3 per cent of all respondents said they slightly or heavily favour exerting pressure on Arabs to leave the country, while 39.4 per cent said they identify either "very much" or "quite a bit" with violence against Arabs.

Those who agreed with pressuring Arabs to leave included 21.7 per cent of the secular respondents, 30.7 per cent of the traditional, and 40.6 per cent of the religious.

On the question of violence towards Arabs following acts of Arab terrorism, those reacting favourably included 32.1 per cent of the secular 45.3 per cent of the traditional, and 46.4 of the religious.

Israeli Arabs expressed shock at the survey and called on the government to take urgent steps to remedy the situation.

"The Knesset must debate this issue fully, take action against racism, and find a remedy for this disease before it spreads throughout the country," said Mohamed Zeidan, spokesman for the forum of Israeli Arab council heads and head of the Kafr Manda local council in the Galilee.

Veteran journalist and author Atallah Mansour of Nazareth said he is concerned, but not greatly surprised, by the findings of the survey.

"It could be expected that 20 years of a right-wing government would be reflected in attitudes in the street," he said.

National Religious Party secretary MK Yitzhak Levy condemned the survey, saying it reeked of the prejudices of whoever had commissioned it.

"It is hard to avoid the impression that there is someone taking advantage of his position as education committee chairman to attack the religious and nationalistic public," Levy said in a statement.

Education committee member Shaul Yahalom (NRP) said comparing the situation here to that in Germany was a demonstration of stupidity, closed-mindedness, and a blunting of the senses.

The survey was "an expression of the self-hatred of 'peaceniks' and human rights activists, who favour the right of Israel's enemies to exist over the right of their own people's survival," Yahalom said.

Likud MK Yehoshua Matza said he would present a motion for the agenda next week to remove Burg from his chairmanship.

"It's a disgrace to the state of Israel and the Knesset when a Jew with a kippa spreads a blood-libel against his own brethren," he said.

"Burg has created a new Protocols of the Elders of Zion. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is trying in London to arouse the conscience of the world against Nazi racism, and here comes Burg saying that we are like the Nazi skinheads," Matza added.

"There is no hatred against Arabs because they are Arabs...this is a struggle for survival in the only tiny strip of land still left to the Jewish people," he said.

## Yemeni government daily wants partnership ended

SANAA (R) — An official Yemeni daily has called on the country's two ruling parties to end their "futile" alliance and give the opposition a chance to rule.

An editorial in the government daily Al Thawra, in the wake of three days of rioting that engulfed six Yemeni cities and killed 12 people, said Yemen needed an opposition and the possibility of an alternative government.

"The recent developments uncovered the futility of the means adopted to stay in power through the sharing of posts...and the double political attitudes which would eventually blow all of us away and harm the country's fate," it said.

The General People's Congress (GPC) of President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), which ruled the former Marxist South Yemen, merged in May 1990. They share posts 50-50.

According to the unity accord, the two parties were to rule until general elections are held. But elections scheduled for last month have been postponed to April 27.

Politicians say the two parties have not yet decided whether to

run as one party or end their partnership.

Al Thawra said the riots "proved that the economic situation...dictates changes to allow opposition parties to hold power."

Rioters took to the streets to protest against an annual inflation rate of 100 per cent and lack of jobs in Yemen, one of the world's poorest countries.

Opposition leaders accuse the two ruling parties of being preoccupied with political rivalry, leaving economic hardships to accumulate and plundering public funds.

Yemen's economy has slowed since aid from Gulf Arab states dried up because of its pro-Iraq sympathy during the Gulf war. It also lost \$1.4 billion in annual remittances from a million Yemeni workers expelled from the oil-rich Gulf states.

President Saleh said in a television interview Wednesday that the opposition should be given a chance to rule.

"If this leadership is unable to solve the financial and administrative matters, to tell the 'truth', it must give the chance for other parties to shoulder this responsibility," he said.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Israeli soldier killed in South Lebanon

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli soldier was killed in an attack in South Lebanon, the army said Sunday. The soldier, identified as Haim Bar Natan, 19, was participating in "a security" activity in Israel's "security zone," the army added. A statement gave no further details, but added that the soldier was being investigated. Israel carved out the 1,100 square-kilometre South Lebanon zone in 1985 when it withdrew from Lebanon to prevent cross-border attacks. The zone is patrolled by Israeli troops and members of the Israeli-financed South Army.

### 3 policemen assassinated in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Unknown attackers shot dead a senior officer south of Algiers, the third policeman killed in a series of official Algerian news agency (APS) said Saturday. The 55-year-old divisional commissioner, was the second big policeman in the town of Blida since the assassination of 19 of a national security chief. APS said a policeman was killed by six armed men last Wednesday in Souidania Boudiaf, just south of Algiers. The attackers took his weapons and papers. On Friday, a policeman was shot dead in broad daylight in a market in the Ben Zerga quarter in the southern city of Algiers. More than 180 members of the security forces were killed since February in attacks blamed on Islamic fundamentalists. The latest deaths brought to 14 the number of killings in a series of night carfews in Algiers and surrounding areas since Dec. 5.

### Swiss businessman on trial in Iran

NICOSIA (R) — The trial of a Swiss businessman charged with illegal receipt of military information has opened in an official Iranian news agency IRNA said. IRNA quoted the court as saying Saturday that the trial of Hans Buehler was "a day" it did not say when the trial had started. Mr. Buehler, 51-year-old salesman of coding equipment, was arrested in March while on a business trip. He is also charged with military contacts, bribery, illegal alcohol consumption. IRNA called "having illegal contacts with Iranian intelligence agency gave no further details."

### 'Saddam syndrome' hit Israel in Gulf

TEL AVIV (R) — A "bedside visit" by a Hebrew officer south of Algiers, the third policeman killed in a series of official Algerian news agency (APS) said Saturday. The 55-year-old divisional commissioner, was the second big policeman in the town of Blida since the assassination of 19 of a national security chief. APS said a policeman was killed by six armed men last Wednesday in Souidania Boudiaf, just south of Algiers. The attackers took his weapons and papers. On Friday, a policeman was shot dead in broad daylight in a market in the Ben Zerga quarter in the southern city of Algiers. More than 180 members of the security forces were killed since February in attacks blamed on Islamic fundamentalists. The latest deaths brought to 14 the number of killings in a series of night carfews in Algiers and surrounding areas since Dec. 5.

### Kuwait arrests 7 Iranian infiltrators

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti authorities arrested seven Iranian infiltrators Saturday, but were still seeking about 13 of them, official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said. The agency said the infiltrators were caught after they entered Kuwait illegally from the direction of the sea and hid in a residential area. Security forces immediately surrounded and arrested seven of them. KUNA said Kuwait had failed earlier attempts by Iranians to enter the country illegally.

### Bomb damages Indian diplomat's car in Ti

ANKARA (R) — A bomb damaged the car of an Indian diplomat in Ankara Saturday but caused no casualties, the Ankara agency reported. It said the bomb, which was planted in a car, shattered nearby windows. There was no immediate responsibility for the attack.

### Taiwan, S. Arabia to discuss refinery vent

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan and Saudi Arabia will discuss a joint-venture oil refinery with a capacity of 150,000 barrels at economic talks this month, the semi-official Central News Agency said. Taiwan would benefit from the project by a stable supply of oil products, Chen Kuo-Yung, president of Taiwan's state-owned Chinese Petroleum Corporation, said Saturday. He said Saudi Arabia, which is Taiwan's supplier of crude oil, views the island as an important market. Chen said the talks would focus on deciding the location of the refinery. Saudi Arabia hopes to build it in Taiwan but the land shortage and environmental regulations may prevent that. The economic talks in Saudi Arabia at the end of the month will be the first since Riyadh switched diplomatic recognition to China from Taiwan in 1990. Despite the diplomatic break, has sought to maintain close economic ties with Saudi Arabia.

### Azerbaijan sends ambassador to Teh

NICOSIA (AP) — The first ambassador to Iran from the Islamic Republic of Azerbaijan submitted his credentials Saturday to Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, the Islamic Republic's foreign minister. The agency said the ambassador, whom it identified as Nassib Nassibzadeh, said Azerbaijan regarded Iran not as a "friendly neighbour" but as a "brotherly country." He said his government appreciated assistance Iran has given to independent republics of the former Soviet Union, the agency said.

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## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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**PROGRAMME TWO**  
18:00 Pif et Hercule  
18:10 Papa Poule  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Magazine Sportif  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Step by Step  
21:10 A Fine Romance  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 The Dismissal

### PRAYER TIMES

05:00 Fajr  
06:22 (Sunrise) Doha  
11:30 Dhuhur  
14:14 'Asr  
16:37 Maghrib  
18:00 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellfish, Tel. 810740  
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Trinitarian Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 652826, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 683326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 428634, 654932  
Church of the Nazareth Tel. 675691

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy and rain will fall in all parts of the country. Winds will be westerly moderate to fresh. As of Tuesday a deep depression will effect Jordan causing rain all over the Kingdom. In Agaba winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman Min./Max. temp. 7/12  
Agaba 12/22  
Doeira 06/15  
Jordan Valley 10/16

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Agaba 22 Humidity readings: Amman 80 per cent, Agaba 42 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY**  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Mohammad Al Goul 790730  
Dr. Jamal Al Ja'bari 769460  
Dr. Farouk Noor 789680  
Dr. Jamil Zaidi 776149  
Firas pharmacy 661912  
Fardows pharmacy 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy 637035  
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Shmeisat pharmacy 637660  
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672  
Najib pharmacy 847632  
ERBID:  
Dr. Ali Al Shokry 246140  
Alquds pharmacy (—)  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Khalil Abu Hussein 985000

Khalifah pharmacy 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade 891228  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 643402  
Traffic Police 986390  
Public Security Department 630321  
Hotel Complaints 605800  
Price Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage 637035  
Complaints 847467  
Amman Municipality 637111  
Complaints 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381  
RJ Flight Information 06-53200  
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 06-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussien Medical Centre 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 644281/6  
Akiliah Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisat 664111/4  
Shmeisat Hospital 669131  
University Hospital 845845  
Al-Musharraf Hospital 66727/9  
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Musharraf 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26  
Army, Marka 691611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital 662249/50  
Amal Hospital 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)93323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)90560  
Jbn Sina Hospital (09)96732  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)99990  
IBRD 662249/50  
Princess Basma Hospital (02)27555  
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27225

Jbn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
07:15 Sanaa (RJ)  
07:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
07:45 Riyadh (RJ)  
07:55 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)  
08:20 Doha (RJ)  
08:45 Doha (RJ)  
08:50 New Delhi (RJ)  
09:15 Beirut (RJ)  
09:30 Cairo (RJ)  
10:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
10:30 Bangkok (RJ)

19:18 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)  
22:20 London (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:45 Khartoum (SU)  
06:30 Cairo (MS)  
06:35 Adan (1Y)  
12:30 Abu Dhabi, Doha (GP)  
12:30 Istanbul (TK)  
18:15 Paris, Beirut (AF)  
18:30 Vienna, Larnaca (OS)  
19:00 Dubai, Damascus (EM)

#### DEPARTURES

##### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:15 Beirut (RJ)  
10:25 London (RJ)  
11:15 Toronto Montreal (RJ)  
12:10 London (RJ)  
12:15 Frankfurt (LH)  
12:45 Cairo (RJ)  
20:30 Dhahran (RJ)  
20:30 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
20:30 Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
21:00 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

#### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:15 Beirut (ME)  
10:25 Cairo (MS)  
10:30 Adan (1Y)

13:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat, Istanbul, Doha

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Grapes (red) 64  
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Cucumbers (small) 24  
Eggplants 24  
Garlic 60  
Grapefruit 20  
Lemons 20  
Marrow (large) 20  
Marrow (small) 20  
Onions (dry) 20  
Onions (green) 20  
Oranges 30  
Pepper (hot) 240  
Pepper (sweet) 150  
Potatoes 240  
Tomatoes 240  
Spinach 240  
Mint 240  
Green Olive 240

مَكْنَزِيَّةُ الْأَصْلِ



## Jordan signs JD22m loan from Italy

By Peter Saters  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Italy and Jordan signed an agreement Sunday, which will provide the Kingdom with a 46 billion lira (JD 22 million) loan to finance imports of Italian raw materials and agricultural equipment. The loan aims to provide capital and strengthen Jordanian infrastructure and is expected to make a "healthy impact on the economy," according to Mustafa Al Saleh, head of the bilateral cooperation division at the ministry.

Dr. Saleh said that this agreement provides "mutual benefits" for both sides because the increase in Italian exports will help the sluggish economy. Under the terms of repayment, the first of 36 instalments is due in 12 years with an annual interest rate of one per cent. Disbursements of the loan are available for both private and governmental companies and applications must be approved by the Ministry of Planning and the Italian Foreign Ministry.

## Agriculture minister calls for Arab strategy

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Sunday urged Arab countries to join hands with the Kingdom in a collective effort to increase food production and help farmers in areas with limited rainfall to create pasture lands and increase livestock.



Faysal Khasawneh

Addressing the opening of a regional workshop attended by delegates from seven countries, Minister of Agriculture Faysal Khasawneh said that a general strategy is badly needed to help areas with 200-350 millimetres of annual rainfall develop and contribute to the general effort of ensuring food security.

Dr. Khasawneh thanked the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) and other institutions for helping Jordan to increase barley production. Delegates from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Cyprus, Lebanon, Turkey and Morocco are taking part in the three-day workshop to discuss means of increasing barley production and utilising pastures in areas which receive up to 350 millimetres of rain.

ICARDA, which is organising the workshop, said 80 researchers and specialists from the seven countries, in addition to 14 from ICARDA, are participating in the workshop and will discuss the results of 25 studies conducted in dry areas. It said that the workshop is part of a regional Mashreq project which is financed by the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD). The five-year project aims at increasing the productivity of barley pasture and livestock in Syria, Jordan and Iraq.

Referring to progress in the project, Dr. Nasri Haddad, ICARDA's regional coordinator, told the audience that much progress has been achieved in the three Arab countries thanks to the agricultural skills and political will.

AFESD representative Samir Haddad told the meeting that there was a need to narrow the widening gap between food consumption and food production. Arab countries' imports of food supplies rose from \$8 billion in the mid-1970s to nearly \$24 billion in the early 1990s and this trend is expected to continue and reach \$60 billion by the end of the present century, Mr. Haddad noted.

ICARDA also focuses on human resources development by training technical staff and organising study tours and workshops to enhance information exchanges.

## More rain storms to come

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is in for rain and thundery storms starting Monday evening according to the Department of Meteorology Sunday.

A statement said that the eastern Mediterranean region is currently under the effect of a low depression centred over Cyprus and accompanied by a cold air

mass from northern Europe which will move toward Jordan.

As of Monday evening there will be a gradual decrease in temperatures, while winds and rain will increase in intensity with hail first falling on the northern regions which will extend later to other parts of the Kingdom, the department said.

**More Home News on page 5.**

## Environment centre to be established in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — An international conference held last week in Uruguay has approved Jordan's request for the establishment of a regional centre in Amman offering training on environment related matters. The announcement was made by Saleh Al Sharee, director of the environment department at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the environment following his return from the conference.

A total of 35 countries representing the signatories of the 1989 Basel agreement which attended the conference agreed that Jordan should host a regional centre

Arab and Middle East region in training personnel in matters related to the management and disposal of dangerous waste.

Dr. Sharee told the Jordan Times that the centre in Jordan will be one of seven regional centres to be established around the world. He said that no budgets had yet been allocated for the project, but the Basel conference's general secretariat was shouldering the project, with contributions from various industrial countries.

Dr. Sharee, who participated in the conference on behalf of

Jordan, said that the Basel agreement was signed in the Swiss city of Basel by representatives of 110 nations which pledged to cooperate with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to maintain constant watch on the changing state of the environment, to assess problems using a wide-range of data and techniques, and to promote projects leading to environmentally-sound development.

In the six-day Uruguay conference Dr. Sharee said a host of questions pertaining to the implementation of the agreement and the exchange of information

among the signatories and legislations at the national level complying with the provisions of the agreement were reviewed. Speakers at the conference stressed the fact that 95 per cent of dangerous waste was produced by industrial northern nations of the globe, with detrimental effects on third world countries, Dr. Sharee said.

He said that the delegates recommended that industrial nations immediately stop exporting dangerous waste and come up with means of helping third world countries in disposing of their own waste.

## Dana Wildlife Reserve to be promoted as a viable tourist site

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of 10 ministries and government departments gathered for a meeting in Amman Sunday to discuss ways of promoting the Dana Wildlife Reserve in south Jordan.

The reserve near the city of Tafleeh encompasses 150 square kilometres ranging from wooded mountains to scrub land.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) were among the first departments to join hands with the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) to develop the region. Discussions at the Sunday meeting attended by RSCN President Anis Muasher also tackled means of restoring the Dana village near the reserve in a bid to attract more tourists. One of the main results of the meeting was a decision by the Ministry of Public Works to asphalt the road linking Ain Lahza and the tourist camp in the Dana reserve, a distance of about seven kilometres.

The Dana reserve is one of the few areas where large populations of larger mammals may survive, according to the RSCN. The mountain gazelle, ibex and striped hyena are among the species present at the reserve.

RSCN Director Maher Abu Jaafar said in a statement after the meeting that the society was enlisting the help of various private and public organisations in Jordan in order to preserve the cultural heritage in the Dana district and at the same time promote tourism and encourage visitors to the reserve.

For its part, the Ministry of Agriculture has prepared comprehensive plans to develop cul-



Animals roam freely at the Dana Wildlife Reserve

tivable areas around Dana and is planning to plant apple trees and vines on a large scale, Mr. Abu Jaafar noted.

He said that the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) has conducted a survey and set up a community centre in Dana village in order to promote cultural and social activities among the local inhabitants. The community centre is currently operating a bee-keeping project which is financed by the Development and Employment Fund which donated JD 10,000.

The JCO, Mr. Abu Jaafar said

contributed to the development of the area by setting up women societies and providing them with handicraft skills particularly in the field of precious stones to be sold to tourists. The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) had helped in locating the areas where such stones can be mined, he added. NRA sources said that the area is rich in minerals with at least 11 types of precious stones, some of which had been displayed at JCO exhibitions held in Jordan and abroad.

For its part the RSCN has set up a control tower at the entrance

of the reserve. It has rebuilt walls, restored 25 old homes, constructed pavements to the main streets of the village and carried out other related restoration work.

Chairing the meeting was Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Dr. Abdul Razzak Tubeishat. Later the minister chaired a meeting to discuss progress in promoting the Azraq water reserve which is financed by the World Bank and under the supervision of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

# ICL appoints Comcent as its sole distributor in Jordan.

International Computers Limited (ICL), is a U.K. based Computer manufacturer and a member of the Fujitsu group of companies, thus forming the second largest computer corporation worldwide, and which by the year 2000 aims to take premier position.

ICL operates in 70 countries, with 27000 staff and a turnover of around \$4 billion. Last year \$450 million were ploughed back into R&D, with the parent company Fujitsu investing around \$2 billion.

ICL's vision of Open Systems computing can be traced back to the 70's and its leadership in Open Systems came as a result of a string of industry "firsts", including the first open mainframe.

- 1978** ICL develops the 7 layer model for computer communication that is the basis for Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) standards.
- 1984** ICL becomes a founding member of X/Open.
- 1989** ICL becomes a founding member of Unix International that was instrumental in setting out the future direction of Unix.
- 1990** ICL launches the first implementation of Unix System V Release 4 on Sparc systems conforming to XPG3 and IEEE POSIX1003.1.
- 1991** ICL announces Open Framework and Open VME to provide XPG3 and POSIX 1003.1.

ICL is the only Information Technology company able to offer open systems across its entire product range, from PC's through to the mid-range, to mainframes. ICL offers a straight forward approach, covering the platform, development tools and application software. ICL is the first Information

Technology company to achieve X/Open certification across its entire hardware product range, from PC workstations through mid-range systems, to mainframes.

ICL's commitment to providing high value, open business solutions has set the company apart, propelling it through 10 years of consistently profitable growth.

Comcent Trading and Contracting Company is one of the oldest computer suppliers in Jordan representing many well-known brands in the computer industry (WANG, MITAC, CALCOMP, CANON, CITIZEN, ACT KINDLE) and offering related computer services, tailored application software, computer supplies and accessories.



Contract Signature - Mithkal Asfour Vice Chairman of Comcent and Kenneth Wilson Business Development Manager of ICL.



**Comcent Trading and Contracting Co.** 3rd. circle, Prince Mohammad St. Phone 644246/7







# Home News

## Jardaneh presents 1993 budget

(Continued from page 1)

ore resources towards social and increasing the government's contribution in the effort to fight unemployment and poverty.

According to Mr. Jardaneh, the budget is based on and aims at achieving the following:

- Financing government expenditure by local revenue which was estimated at JD 1,125 billion after deducting non-recurrent customs revenue of JD 60 million. This is 28 per cent higher than the estimated revenue of 1992.
- Decreasing the budget deficit to not exceeding eight per cent of GDP, including the "Armament and Development" fund.
- Providing continued support for armed and security forces.
- Allocating enough funds to social, health, educational and youth services. Allocations for the ministries of health, youth, education and social development were increased by 10 per cent.
- Improving the living standards of citizens with limited income and making efforts to fight poverty and unemployment. The allocations of the National Aid Fund were increased by 62 per cent over 1992 and as stand at JD 12 million. Three billion dinars were also earmarked for the Development and Employment Fund.
- Decreasing unemployment and giving priority to labour intensive investment. Six thousand new permanent jobs will be created in 1993.
- Coordinating the capital budget with the comprehensive development plan, which the government is still working on.
- Giving priority to social services and refraining from constructing new permanent buildings unless foreign aid is secured for them.
- Developing the infrastructure of the service sector; and
- Supporting government programmes for administrative reform.

For the first time in Jordan's history, according to Mr. Jardaneh, estimated local revenues cover current recurrent expenditure. This, he said, marked the beginning of a new era of self-reliance in government finance.

— An objective sought economic planners for the last two years.

He said the "dramatic change in country's economic performance" had not been achieved without commitment to financial and structural reforms and the economic reform programme.

He said the commitment to economic reforms policies resulted in financial and monetary balance and increased confidence in it, resulting in increased savings.

— A sectoral analysis of the economy in 1992, Mr. Jardaneh drew the picture of the country's economic performance in 1992 and hoped for a high level of economic growth and development.

He said the GDP, goods and services, grew by 15 per cent in 1992, while prices rose by 11 per cent. Excluding VAT, the real growth rate was 14.6 per cent due to the rise achieved by all productive sectors.

Mr. Jardaneh said the industrial and agricultural sectors grew by 10 per cent while the growth rate of the construction sector was 22 per cent in 1992.

Mr. Jardaneh said the growth of the financial sector in 1992 resulted in a surplus of JD 144 million instead of projected deficit of JD 107 million in 1992 budget after adding to the government. Excluding grants, Mr. Jardaneh said, the deficit for 1992 decreased to JD 388 million to JD 54 million.

He said the decrease of the deficit when adding the grants was achieved by current local revenue which amounted at JD 1.1 billion, an increase of 32 per cent over the initially projected figures in the 1992 budget.

Mr. Jardaneh said, 50 million were non-recurrent taxes paid as customs for cars by motorists from the Gulf.

Mr. Jardaneh said that foreign aid is expected to reach JD 198 million, 29 per cent below the estimated figure in the 1992 budget.

Current expenditure for 1992, was estimated at JD 932 million, a decrease of 10 per cent over the figure estimated in 1992.

Mr. Jardaneh said capital expenditure was reestimated at JD 272 million, 18 per cent less than expected in the 1992 budget.

Initial estimates point to a surplus of \$100 million despite a huge increase in the imports bill expected to reach \$3 billion, he said.

Deficit in the balance of trade is projected to increase to \$1.7 billion, 34 per cent above 1991 figures, according to Mr. Jardaneh, who attributed the increase in the deficit to the imports bill estimated to be \$500 million larger than 1991. He said exports are expected to reach \$1.3 billion, a 15 per cent increase over 1991.

Mr. Jardaneh said that these figures represent real monetary flow and do not include rescheduled in negotiations with the Paris and the London clubs.

Accordingly, he said, they are not equal to figures shown by the economic readjustment programme.

Mr. Jardaneh also said that the investment share of the GDP in 1992 would increase by 27 per cent compared to 22 per cent in 1991. He said all indicators showed that investment activity would increase in 1993.

Boosting the stability of the dinar in 1992, the minister said, were foreign currency reserves which are expected to top \$200 million due to the surplus in the overall balance of payment.

Mr. Jardaneh said that 96,000 Jordanians are unemployed according to the latest figures produced by the Royal Scientific Society. He said the economic growth and government policies against unemployment would reduce the figures and curb the spread of poverty.

Government figures for 1991 put unemployment at 18 per cent without clarifying the criteria used in measuring unemployment. Unofficial figures estimated 30 to 35 per cent unemployment.

The minister said that negotiations with Paris Clubs have led to the rescheduling of \$778 million of foreign debts for a period of 20 years with a 10-year grace period for bilateral debts.

Repayment of export and development loans was rescheduled for a period of 15 years with a grace period of eight years.

Mr. Jardaneh said Jordan had reached an agreement in principle with commercial banks to apply formulas to the country's debts and to seek reducing these debts or interest charged on them.

He said contracted but unbursed foreign debts are expected to decrease by \$1 billion or 11 per cent compared to 1991. Actual debts are projected to fall by \$700 million or 10 per cent compared to 1991.

Mr. Jardaneh said debt payments between 1992-2000 have decreased from \$5,595 billion to \$4,913 billion or 12 per cent while the average interest rate on actual debts have decreased from 6.6 per cent in 1991 to six per cent in 1992.

Excluding expenditure on debt buy-backs, the minister said, servicing for debts will cost \$550 million or 14 per cent of exported goods and services compared to \$762 million or 21 per cent of exported goods and services in 1991.

The minister told the House that the economic growth in 1991 had allowed for certain adjustments in the economic reform programme leading to an expected surplus in the current balance of payment in 1992 instead of reaching equilibrium in 1998 as initially projected in the reform programme. By the end of the programme, he said, the budget deficit will be gradually reduced to five per cent of the GDP.

The minister said an annual plan for 1993 has been drafted for the purpose of strengthening the real annual economic growth to reach six to seven per cent maintaining inflation at four to five per cent, keeping the budget deficit at or below 10 per cent of the GDP.

Mr. Jardaneh said economic indicators call for optimism about the country's economic performance which "showed an impressive ability" to overcome the consequences of the Gulf crisis.

He said industrial expansion would help foot the bill of infrastructure needed to facilitate increased investment.

The economic growth achieved in 1992 indicates that the 1990s will be "a decade economic expansion that will lead to a better standards of living in a healthy environment that avoid financial and economic loopholes and lead to better utilisation of resources," the minister told the House.

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## King in Washington on private visit

(Continued from page 1)

involved with the U.N. as you know. We have a Jordanian contingent with the U.N. We are following the news with great interest and concern and we would like to see an end to the strife... in former Yugoslavia."

On the incoming administration of President-elect Bill Clinton, he said: "I am optimistic and hopeful and I believe that nothing will change on the major issues... of the world and the U.S. policies will continue to be much the same and to seek to resolve problems... We are old friends and nothing would change. I hope."

## Water experts to continue talks

(Continued from page 1)

nonetheless found common ground and efforts to formulate a statement would still be made, he said.

Round eight of the stalled Middle East peace talks between Israel and Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinians is currently under way in Washington.

Most observers now believe there is little prospects of achieving progress until after Jan. 20 when U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton takes over.

Israeli, Palestinian and international scientists at the wide-ranging conference addressed the issue chiefly from its technical, legal, economic and hydrological aspects.

Delegates debated the questions of water supply, demand and equitable distribution, as well as its marketing, its management and technical solutions to boost water efficiency and reduce the impact on the environment.

## 4 killed in upsurge of violence

(Continued from page 1)

In Nusseirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, troops shot dead Shaaban Abu Ayada, 22, during clashes Sunday, United Nations sources said.

So far this year 126 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis — 40 since Oct. 1. The 13 soldiers to die this year exceed the total of 11 killed in all four previous years of the five-year-old Palestinian revolt against Israeli rule.

Israeli troops shot dead a Palestinian, Hassan Handur, near Hebron in the occupied West Bank when masked men refused orders to halt, an army spokeswoman said.

The three deaths brought to least 972 the number of Palestinians killed by Israelis during the uprising.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the Palestinian revolt, which entered a sixth year last Wednesday, would last until a settlement was reached in peace talks under way in Washington.

"(The uprising) reflects the existing conflict between us and the Palestinians," Mr. Peres told Israeli Radio in an interview aired Sunday. "As long as this conflict continues, we will have problems."

## Edinburgh summit revives EC

(Continued from page 1)

not address the problems of the European exchange rate mechanism or the high level of German interest rates, blamed by most for throttling economic growth across the continent.

Another ghost which could yet haunt the community lay undisputed in Edinburgh — the row between France and its partners over the farm subsidy deal with Washington in the GATT world trade talks. With so much else on the summit agenda, both sides agreed to leave that battle for another day.

That determination to ensure a successful summit accounted for the remarkable lack of tension around the meeting, despite the complexity of the issues and the emphatic demands by the EC's poorer countries for a larger slice of the EC budget.

There were occasional flashes, however.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, whose rearguard action on behalf of the "poor four" — his own country, Greece, Portugal and Ireland — squeezed an extra 250 million ECUs (\$310 million) out of the summit in the late-night bargaining, threatened to walk out altogether at one point.

So too did Chancellor Helmut Kohl when his demand for 18 more members for Germany in the European Parliament was called into question.

Mr. Kohl admitted having to make a "substantial verbal contribution" to persuade Mr. Gonzalez to accept the final deal.

The German leader, the biggest contributor to the EC budget, had been determined to secure the extra representation at the parliament following his country's unification.

In the haggling that followed, the long-held principle of parity between the "big four" — France, Germany, Britain and Italy — was broken as the others received smaller increases.

To compensate France in particular, leaders then had to confirm the sites of the major EC institutions, whose homes have been only provisional since it was founded 35 years ago.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An exhibition of ceramics by Jordanian artist Mahmoud Taha at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Hind Nasser at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by painter Ufemia Rizk at Yarmouk University.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Samer Ousama at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Sculpture exhibition by Mona Saudi at Al Balka Art Gallery in Al Fabeis.
- ★ Exhibition of rugs and ceramics by Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund, at the Plaza Hotel from 10 a.m. till 8 p.m.
- ★ Exhibition of weaving and ceramics, at the Philadelphia Hotel from 9:30 a.m. till 7:30.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings and silkscreen by three artists from Gaza Fayed Al Hasani, Kamel Al Mughanni and Laila Shawa at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.)
- ★ Exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Hassan Al Saeed at the Jordan Gallery of Fine Arts.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics by Iraqi artist Nehaya Khalaf at Baladna Art Gallery.

### LECTURE

- ★ Lecture entitled "Madaba and Late Antique City Planning" by Dr. C.J. Lenzen at the Friends of Archaeology Centre (FOAC) — 7 p.m.

### PLAY

- ★ Play entitled "Waiting for Godot", directed by Sawwan Darwazah at the Royal Cultural Centre, the main theatre — 8 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ Film entitled "Haniet" at the British Council centre — 7 p.m.

### DEBATE

- ★ Satellite debate on the U.S. role in Somalia — the U.S. embassy auditorium, Abdoun, at 2:30 p.m.

## Arab writers festival kicks off with: Calls for Occidentalism Writing for children

By Sa'eda Kilani  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In the first day of a week-long festival for Arab writers held at the Royal Cultural Centre, lecturers highlighted the role of writers in the progress of Arab countries and insisted upon the need to implement "occidentalism" as a response to orientalism.

"Occidentalism," according to the Lebanese writer, Dr. Anton Seif, is one of the most pressing needs at present for the development of Arab culture.

Citing the Egyptian writer Hasan Hanafi, Dr. Seif explained to the few participants who attended the four-hour sessions that occidentalism must not be of a hostile nature which would antagonise the West but should be an overall process of transforming the "West" in a way that would eventually lead to our benefit.

From Yemen, the writer Hisham Ali Ben Ali pointed to the cultural (threat) imposed by

America and Europe on the cultural footsteps of the Arab world, influencing their history, economy and politics.

Voicing his dismay on the situation in the Arab world, the Jordanian writer, Dr. Suleiman Al Tarawneh, pointed to the West's exploitation of the Arab countries under the "new imperialist order... and the arrogant will of the world's leader which is reflected in the destruction in Iraq, the pressures exercised on Jordan and on PLO, as well as the conspiracies against Syria, Algeria and Libya." However, he confirmed that the "Arab nation's will will not be shaken by such practices."

The Arab writers' conference, planned to last until Tuesday, is due to embark on issues of Arab cultural concern such as the "Arab writer and Arab-Zionist conflict" and the "Arab culture between dependence and independence."

ambitious and hard to grasp. "Scientific writing for children should be able to open the eyes of the child to scientific information by the most simplest and clear method," he said. It should also encourage children to use their imagination and develop it in the most exciting way."

Mr. Saloum also said that children in Arab countries are deeply influenced by western cartoons and translated scientific fiction and Arab writers should adopt such methods to present Arab culture and its principles.

The Tunisian writer Mubarak Rabei's lecture tackled the considerations writers for children should take while presenting certain themes to them. He said that children's literature should be more attached to reality rather than imposing idealistic themes such as the constant triumph of good over evil.

"We must always be reminded that the child possesses a strong capacity for learning and development," he added. "He earns always for the betterment and for more information."

AMMAN — What can we offer to the child? Does the Arab child really possess a scientific mind? Are we teaching science to children in a complicated manner? These are some of the soul-searching questions raised in the first day of a week-long seminar on children held at the Royal Cultural Centre Sunday.

One prominent Iraqi writer for children, Mr. Faruq Saloum said: "An in-depth interest in children's writings was of minor importance in the Arab world until very recently."

In his paper entitled "Scientific Writing... or Scientific Imagination," Mr. Saloum said that "there are still many countries in the Arab world who do not have special institutions to provide cultural and social activities for children."

"Scientific thinking is a synonym for freedom of thinking," he said, and "science can not be reared in a milieu where freedom is restricted."

According to Mr. Saloum, many of the writings and terms used in children's books are still

recognised. According to Dr. Auran, the committee ruled that her credentials were not sufficient. "I was shocked," she said. According to JMC regulations, a candidate must possess the highest certificate available in the field of study, and must have sufficient experience to qualify for official recognition.

Dr. Auran argues that "in the U.K., there is no higher examination specifically in the field of cardiology." "I could do nothing else, they accused me of being a liar. So I went to court," she said.

Dr. Fouad Kilani, chairman of the committee which reviews candidates for cardiology specialties, said that Dr. Auran's case was not decided finally before she took legal action. Although unable to comment while the case was before the court, Dr. Kilani said that "he did his best" to help Dr. Auran, but there is a committee which must decide unanimously.

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## Physicians seek court intervention over question of accreditation

By Peter Saters  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Frustrated by what they call the "corrupt" accreditation process of the Jordan Medical Council (JMC), foreign-educated physicians are turning to the Higher Court of Justice in hopes of winning authorisation to practise in Jordan.

The court is currently hearing the first of 20 cases filed by disgruntled physicians which call attention to an ongoing dispute between the JMC and doctors trained in specialties abroad.

The establishment-based JMC continues to be accused of not recognising speciality certificates earned abroad because they fear the competition. "They are a doctor mafia and are afraid of us because we are highly specialised and have good experience," said Dr. Dee na Auran, whose trial is now before the court.

Dr. Auran specialised in Cardiology at England's National Heart and Lung Institute at the University of London. She presented her certificate to the JMC last year and expected it to be

de facto spokesman for foreign-educated doctors, said the JMC normally rejects foreign doctors as an excuse "under a cover that they want to raise the standard of medicine in Jordan."

Dr. Auran and a dozen other physicians who studied in the United Kingdom wrote last month a letter to the British Ambassador seeking help, saying that the institutions from which they had graduated are not being respected.

Doctors have long complained about the process of accreditation. Four years ago, the Jordan Medical Board replaced unpopular speciality examinations, which began in 1982 with another method equally deplored by physicians.

Candidates must now submit their credentials to the JMC where they are reviewed and judged individually according to JMC regulations.

Such an unscientific method, say doctors, allows for personal conflicts and bias to interfere with a fair decision. "It is not according to any law, (it is) according to how they like," Dr. Auran said.

Doctors interviewed say there are many Jordanian doctors who would rather work in Jordan but have stayed abroad because of the bureaucratic problems hindering their recognition here.

"Their method is to send people out of the country, so (the JMC doctors) do not have any competition," Dr. Mandani said.

The fight for accreditation flared up two years ago when 400 doctors from the Gulf countries came to Jordan following the war. The doctors, most of whom had significant specialised experience, were either not receiving accreditation or were left waiting indefinitely.

A group staged demonstrations and sit-ins, culminating in a much-publicised hunger strike and camp out of 250 doctors in front of the Ministry of Health in May this year. The 25-day demonstration led to the doctors winning support from the leftist and the Muslim Brotherhood bloc in Parliament. The pressure resulted in 748 specialists receiving accreditation from the JMC, according to Dr. Mandani.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament's Law Committee held a meeting Sunday under its Chairman Saleem Al Zubi and discussed amendments to the Telecommunications Corporation Law and the Illegal Profiteering Law.

The House's Financial Committee also held a meeting Sunday under its Chairman Abdullah Akaleh and debated the 1992 Value Added Tax (VAT) draft law. The committee was briefed by Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh on the reasons for enacting this law and it is scheduled to take a decision on the law next week.

AMMAN (Petra) — A report by the Department for Palestinian Affairs at the Foreign Ministry issued Sunday focuses attention on heavy taxes imposed by the Israeli authorities on Arabs, the continued confiscation of Arab-owned land, and the inhuman treatment of inmates in Israeli jails.

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## Features

### Israel's crack troops fall from public grace

By David Richardson

AVIV — Once they were regarded as the world's elite fighting forces, the Israeli crack troops have fallen from public grace. The six-day war, from its attacks on Palestinian towns to blitzkriegs against Syria, it seemed no more in the Middle East could them. Much has changed in the Israeli army's of invincibility has been eroded by the debacle of the Lebanese invasion, the trip of the Palestinian intifada, the coming of age of a generation that prefers its class lifestyle to fighting, a disastrous training accident killed five young fighters provoked some of the serious public criticism the has faced. General Ehud Barak, chief of staff, was quizzed by a hostile parliament committee; until nobody would have imagined calling the army to account. The dead soldiers, who downed when a live shell mistakenly fired on them, a training exercise on a Ze'elim, would usually been listed simply as killed in line of duty. "I grew up on these myths about the special units," said Yoram, an ex-paratrooper who now runs his own advertising agency. "Today I am sceptical about them. I don't think they make all that difference. Perhaps it is time for us to think of a professional army." The army's bungled attempts to cover up the latest accident served only to fuel public debate.

school graduates not to volunteer for undercover army units trained to combat the Palestinian rebellion in the occupied territories. Although the pamphlet was widely criticised and the group's members harassed, their action would have been unthinkable a decade ago.

The training accident provoked such a fierce public questioning because it involved one of the army's commando units, which embody the romantic myth of the Israeli army as unorthodox in method but efficient in execution. Gen. Barak, who is said to have led a successful storming of a hijacked airliner at Lod, and many of the leading generals surrounding him are veterans of these units.

The Ze'elim affair, as it has been dubbed, was only the latest in a series of training accidents. During the summer two young recruits died of heatstroke while on survival training north of Eilat; a year ago another five soldiers were killed when a wrong codeword on the radio sent an artillery shell into a group relaxing on a dune, also at Ze'elim. Disillusion is rife. "I grew up on these myths about the special units," said Yoram, an ex-paratrooper who now runs his own advertising agency. "Today I am sceptical about them. I don't think they make all that difference. Perhaps it is time for us to think of a professional army."

The army's bungled attempts to cover up the latest accident served only to fuel public debate.

"We were taken aback by the strength of public reaction," said Mordechai Zippori, the deputy defence minister. "The whole affair has been mishandled and has left a scar. If the witch hunt continues, there will be long-term damage."

The story has been on the front pages of the local press since the five, believed to be members of the secret Sayeret Matkal, or general staff reconnaissance unit, were killed in the northern Negev on Nov. 5.

Attending the exercise were most of the military top brass including Gen. Barak; Major General Amiram Levine, the unit's commander; Amnon Shahak, the deputy chief of staff; and Major General Uri Saguy, chief of army intelligence. After almost daily leaks, and the army censor's heavy-handed attempts to plug them, the news broke last week. The Miami Herald reported that all the generals were present to supervise a dry run before an operation scheduled for later the same day aimed at assassinating Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, leader of Hezbollah, the fundamentalist Islamic organisation, in Beirut.

The story, which had been banned from Israeli newspapers by the army censor, was immediately picked up by the local media.

The army censor was seen in earlier times as the guardian of Israel's security and allowed to work anonymously. Last week he found himself in front of another hostile parliamentary panel, his photograph in all the papers and

his decisions publicly criticised.

The reputation of the Israeli army is unlikely to be repaired in the near future. Israelis realise that it has been living on past glories, such as the Entebbe raid. However, since the 1967 war it has had few clear successes: the 1973 Yom Kippur war was almost lost in the first day, the 1982 invasion of Lebanon turned into Israel's Vietnam, and the intifada has dragged on for five years. During the Gulf war, the army and its much-vaunted air force had its hands tied even as the first missiles fell on the country.

Adding to the army's problems is Israel's change of life-style. It is no longer a pioneer state. Although Israelis remain sceptical of their Arab neighbours' intentions, their increasingly middle-class way of life strains commitment to the army, where they must serve lengthy periods of reserve duty every year. As the country battles with economic problems, the army's budget is being viewed with increasing hostility.

The nature of the army itself has also changed; it is demoralised by the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, fighting teenagers with stones and a hostile world press. Meir Pail, a leading local military historian, said this had changed the mentality of those serving today. "You cannot deny it is corrupting. It undermines the self-image of those who have to serve there," The Observer.

### Mideast — the text of peace needs a careful reading

By Gideon Rafael

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Arab and Israeli representatives are in Washington for their seventh round of peace negotiations since the Madrid conference more than a year ago. Having spent months in procedural manoeuvring, they are now cautiously approaching issues of substance. And all are awaiting, some with trepidation and others with hope, the arrival of the Clinton administration.

Since the Arab-Israeli conflict began, two fears have haunted both sides: the fear of war and the fear of peace. The Gulf war dramatised the devastating perils that a future war would hold. As to the benefits of peace, nothing could have been more persuasive to Arab leaders than President Sadat's audacious vault over the barrier of hostility. Arab leaders slowly began accommodating themselves to the idea that Israel's right to national independence, peace and security was as legitimate as their own.

The 45th anniversary of the United Nations' decision on the peaceful settlement of the conflict coincides with the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the Security Council resolution charting the outlines of the prospective peace agreement. While Arab military intervention wrecked the solution envisioned in 1947, U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967 remains the universally recognised instrument for the attainment of peace.

But misinterpretation could impair its usefulness. Some read it as requiring the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the territories occupied in 1967. Others claim that Resolution 242 does not apply to the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights. Both interpretations are incompatible with the text and intentions of its authors. A singular diplomatic success story, Resolution 242 (together with Resolution 338, its companion), has already made one peace treaty possible, and it continues to serve as the sole agreed basis for future agreements.

Resolution 242, in conjunction with the Camp David accord — in which Israel recognised "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" — affirms the obligation of the parties to establish a just and lasting peace by direct negotiations, with outside assistance if so desired.

It stipulates that Arab states must end their state of belligerency towards Israel. It calls for the acknowledgment of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries; and provides

for the withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in 1967 to secure and recognised boundaries to be contracted in the treaties of peace.

As long as the Arab side, and in particular Syria, hesitates to commit itself in binding terms to the central aim of Resolution 242, the conclusion of full contractual peace, prospects remain dim for the settlement of other outstanding issues.

The dissolution of the Soviet empire has created novel opportunities to resolve long deadlocked conflicts. Russia is no longer an element of disturbance in the Middle East and in the United Nations. It supports the settlement of regional conflicts, encourages Arab-Israeli peace negotiations and cooperates with the

other permanent members of the Security Council.

For too long, Arabs and Israelis have wasted lives, resources and opportunities in sterile hostility. The Arab states, unable to eliminate Israel by force, made the United Nations their battleground, reversing the Clausewitz doctrine that war is a continuation of diplomacy by other means. Israel held its ground in both arenas.

In connection with the U.S. occupation of defeated Japan, Dean Acheson wrote, "Force can overcome force, but a free society cannot steel itself to dominate another people by sheer force." Israel's military experience and democratic vocation confirm both parts of the Acheson doctrine. The Arab experience is marked

by an accumulation of fury and frustration, as well as the failure to seize opportunities likely to turn their fortunes. In this way, the Arabs harmed themselves more than their foes could.

Arabs and Israelis have finally moved from the battlefield to the conference table. By all appearances they realise that if their negotiators abandon that table without having accomplished their task, a torrent of violence may sweep their peoples back into the abyss of war. Two years from now the United Nations will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding. The presentation of Arab-Israeli peace treaties to the U.N. registrar of treaties would be their most fitting and cherished tribute.

The writer is a former director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and former ambassador to the United Nations. The article is reprinted from the International Herald Tribune.

### Islands dispute could be focus of Gulf Arab summit

I (R) — Tehran's actions against islands that straddle oil routes, including the arrival there of Iranian troops, could galvanise anti-Iran sentiment at a Gulf Arab summit this month, diplomats

said members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) were angry that many promises, Iran had fully rescinded measures seen as a violation of the island of Iraq, which it shares with the Arab Emirates.

Gulf diplomats said setting the island, which had been disputed between a community of fishermen and Iranian police that lived in a garrison, posed new worst-off Tehran's intentions. Settlers' arrival could not be confirmed but the said it added a new dimension to the discussion of Iranian relations at the

GCC summit due to open in Abu Dhabi on Dec. 21.

The diplomats said tensions have mounted since the row erupted in March due to worries about Tehran's massive rearmament programme, including its acquisition of submarines, and the growing militancy of its anti-Western rhetoric.

"The Gulf states are unhappy about Iran's actions and see the islands dispute as an example of bad faith," one Arab diplomat said.

After a decade of recrimination following Iran's Islamic revolution that threatened to spread radicalism to conservative neighbours, ties with Iran began to mend after Tehran joined the Gulf Arabs in strongly opposing Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

But they took a dive when Iran earlier this year extended its authority in Abu Musa beyond the area of a garrison it was allowed to set up under a 1971 agreement.

Tehran failed to appease its Arab neighbours when last

month it eased conditions for residents of the small island halfway across the Gulf and about 50 kilometres from either shore, close to Gulf oil tanker routes, the diplomats said.

"They have allowed a few foreigners back, but their patrols continue to roam the whole island," one diplomat said.

Neither side gave up its claim of sovereignty over the whole island under the 1971 agreement. The UAE says it was signed under duress after the late Shah of Iran sent an invasion force to Abu Musa shortly before Britain gave up its protection of the seven Gulf sheikhdoms that formed the UAE later that year.

In March Tehran expelled the foreigners who operated essential services on the island such as its school and clinic, claiming they constituted a risk to its security on the island.

It announced last month that the security threat had receded and it had therefore allowed back 12 teachers and their families,

mostly Egyptians, to reopen the school. Diplomats said it had also allowed the entry of an Indian doctor and nurse to reopen the clinic and workers who operate the island's power station.

The diplomats said it was not clear how many settlers had arrived since March or if any of them were crossing into the larger southern part of the island which is controlled by the UAE sheikhdom of Sharjah under the 1971 agreement.

There are no borders on the island and residents had in the past moved freely between the Iranian and Arab-controlled parts but Iranian police and troops had taken on island-wide responsibilities since March, they added.

Tehran says it is responsible for the island's security under accords with Sharjah but the UAE has consistently denied this and published documents which make no mention of security.

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# Economy

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## Foreign Exchange Market Summary (December 7-December 11, 1992)

AMMAN — Dollar exchange rates witnessed wide fluctuations against the major European currencies during the course of last week, but ended the week only modestly changed. Against the pound, it was 0.95 per cent lower compared to the previous Friday, but was 1.5 per cent lower against the Swiss franc. The rising tempo of ERM woes, triggered this time by the Swiss rejection of closer economic bonds with Europe and fuelled by the Edinburgh Summit, favoured the German mark and low-ERM currencies, reflecting adversely on the dollar. Meanwhile, the decline of trading volume ahead of the year-end concentrated price movements, creating added pressures against the U.S. unit, as many traders had been sitting on accumulated long-dollar positions.

News of the Swiss "No" vote to a proposition to join the European Economic Area flinched traders during Monday's Asian trading, taking the Swiss franc sharply lower, and the dollar higher. But a process of reevaluation later in the day indicated that such a move should bolster the safe-haven status of the Swiss franc, particularly at a time when the future of the European Economic unification process was so much in doubt. The Swiss franc hence rebounded sharply while the dollar dropped against most European currencies, closing at its lowest levels of the week at 1.5565 marks \$1.5593 to the pound and 1.3935 Swiss francs.

Analysts explained, that given the already accumulated long-dollar positions, failure of the U.S. currency to rally significantly, particularly against a strengthening Swiss franc, prompted many traders to adjust their positions, selling dollars to minimize losses.

Tuesday was uneventful, as technical factors continued to govern trading, in the absence of other price-moving news. The dollar rebounded Wednesday, benefiting mostly from a sharp decline in the British pound. The pound, which lost more than three cents, was sold off on news that a report by some economic advisors to the British Conservative government was calling for a two per cent cut in the base rate, and a 15 per cent evaluation. Whilst many observers did not expect any drastic change in British economic policy in the near term, and questioned strongly the feasibility of a devaluation, the report nevertheless succeeded in unnerving many traders.

The dollar rose further Thursday, helped by rising tensions in Russia, which always hurt the mark. The Bundesbank, in line with expectations, announced it was raising its target for money supply growth for 1993. The U.S. unit hence closed at its highest levels of the week at 1.5792 marks and \$1.5550 to the pound. Trading volume declined even more at the end of the week, as storm hit New York, preventing many traders from reaching their banks. In Europe, where the bulk of trading occurred, news surrounding the ERM, despite the release of a set of tentative U.S. economic reports. The data signalled encouraging economic progress in the U.S. during November, which prompted several economic analysts to raise their forecasts for GDP growth during the final quarter of this year.

Medium term expectations remain firmly in favour of the dollar against all European currencies, as the fundamentals are increasingly pointing to an improving pace of economic recovery in the U.S., contrasted with a marked slow-down in Germany. But the director of exchange rates up until the year-end is, nevertheless, unclear and could be subject for some time, due to the technical considerations that govern at this time of the year.

### York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the Dollar

Currency	4/12/92	11/12/92	Percent Change
British Pound	1.5605	1.5560	(0.29)
Deutsche Mark	1.5930	1.5780	0.95%
Swiss Franc	1.4285	1.4070	1.53%
French Franc	5.4070	5.3935	0.25%
Japanese Yen	124.95	123.87	0.87%

### re-Currency Interest Rates

Currency	4/12/92	11/12/92	1-Month (%)	1-Year (%)
S. Dollar	3.87	4.00	3.43	4.00
British Pound	7.06	6.62	7.19	6.68
Deutsche Mark	9.03	7.81	9.12	7.87
Swiss Franc	6.78	5.68	6.06	5.50
French Franc	10.25	9.06	10.87	9.25
Japanese Yen	3.87	3.62	3.87	3.65

### Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
S. Dollar	.688	.690
British Pound	1.0706	1.0760
Deutsche Mark	.4351	.4373

## Clinton vows U.S. economic strategy to keep America on top

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (R) — President-elect Bill Clinton put Europe and Japan on notice Saturday his administration would develop a strategy to make sure the United States wins the race of the world's economic superpowers.

In a sharp break from the hands-off approach of the Republican administrations of the past 12 years Mr. Clinton said government must work with industry to help develop the critically important technologies of the future.

"With Europe coming together, with the Japanese developing closer and closer trading ties in the Far East, I think the United States needs to tie with Canada, with Mexico, with others in this hemisphere," he told a news conference.

"And I think we need a strategy so that we do not permit a squandering of our precious economic resources," he added.

Mr. Clinton's comments may send shivers down the spines of U.S. competitors in Europe and Japan and kindle fears the world economy is splitting into trading blocs.

At the news conference Mr. Clinton named Democratic Party Chairman Ron Brown as commerce secretary and long-time friend Thomas McLarty to serve as White House chief of staff.

"In my administration the Commerce Department will play a more visible and powerful role in rebuilding the American economy," Mr. Clinton said. "I am

nominating someone who will make the Commerce Department a powerhouse — Ron Brown." Mr. Clinton denied his administration would try to pick winners and losers in the economy of the future by targeting certain industries or companies for support.

But he made clear the government would play a more active role in helping American industry under his rule than he has either under President George Bush or former President Ronald Reagan.

"There has to be a national economic strategy in which government is a partner with the private sector," he said.

He pointed to the U.S. agriculture and defence industries as examples of where government has played an important role.

Alluding approvingly to a book by Lester Thurow, a prominent political economist, Mr. Clinton suggested there might be only one winner in the race to develop the technologies of the future and create high-wage jobs.

Mr. Thurow's book "Head to Head" depicts a coming economic battle between the United States, Europe and Japan to set the rules that will govern the world economy in the next century.

"Unlike in past times there may not be a win-win situation," Mr. Clinton said. "There may just be a limited number of these jobs."

Those comments contrast sharply with the free-trade philosophy that has dominated

American policy-making since the end of World War II in which all nations benefited from technological advances.

Mr. Clinton also insists he is still committed to cutting taxes on the U.S. middle class, but he and his new economic team made clear this week that it is not their first priority.

Mr. Clinton's choices of players for the top economic posts in his administration suggest he is just as serious about reducing the budget deficit as about keeping his campaign pledge to cut taxes.

And as he announces his second raft of cabinet appointments Friday, Mr. Clinton said that revitalising the U.S. economy through promoting investment was his first concern.

As a result of these decisions, the Edinburgh council will be remembered as the summit that put the Community back together and put us back on track recovery," British Prime Minister John Major told a news conference.

The initiative offered little new cash, focusing rather on ways to promote investment in major public works projects through loan guarantees and sticking to well-worn policies of clamping down on inflation and budget deficits.

Shocked by a relentless rise in unemployment across Europe and a sudden slowdown in Germany, the European Community's economic powerhouse, leaders said there were serious

remains.

"I think it (the middle-class tax cut) has been on the back burner for a while," said Jeff Faux, president of the Economic Policy Institute, a liberal think tank.

"The middle-class tax cut really was something that he didn't emphasise for the last four or five months of the campaign. The emphasis changed to investment."

During the campaign, Mr. Clinton said his economic plan would provide \$60 billion in tax cuts to middle-class families, offering them a \$300 tax cut per child or \$300 for a couple.

But questions arose about whether he intended to follow through on the pledge after his choice for White House Budget Chief, Leon Panetta said he thought cutting the budget deficit, now nearly \$300 billion, was more important than cutting taxes.

While Mr. Clinton assured reporters Mr. Panetta was not rejecting a tax cut for the middle class, there are no passionate advocates of such a cut among the rest of his economic team.

Mr. Clinton chose conservative Texas Senator Lloyd Bentsen as treasury secretary and Wall Street investment banker Robert Rubin to coordinate economic policy in his administration.

The most left-wing of the new economic advisers, Harvard political economist Robert Reich, has emphasised government investment in infrastructure, education and training.

## AFM prepares to build new stock exchange in Shmeisani

AMMAN (R) — Jordan's stock exchange, undergoing a year-long boom, will build the Kingdom's first exchange building by 1995, its director said.

Amman Financial Market (AFM) Director Umayya Toukan said Saturday the proposed new building in Amman's Shmeisani financial district had received cabinet approval and design firms would soon be invited to tender bids.

He declined to specify the cost of the project, which he said would come from the exchange's own funds.

"This is definitely a sign of confidence in the future of the market," Dr. Toukan said.

He said the exchange is expected to move out of rented office space into the new eight-story building, its first permanent home, by early 1995. The 15,000-to-20,000 square metre building will also include a three-floor

underground car park and a restaurant.

Jordan's stock market, the most active in the Middle East, has reached successive record trading highs in the past year, fuelled by an infusion of money from citizens returned from the Gulf after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Trading hit a monthly record value of 128.1 million dinars (\$186 million) in November after rising steadily since August.

## EC leaders launch growth package

EDINBURGH (R) — European Community (EC) leaders launched a "growth initiative" designed to inject more than \$35 billion of new investment into flagging economies but said they were determined to clamp down on budget deficits.

Leaders hailed the package, designed to "boost confidence and promote economic recovery," and said the success of their Edinburgh summit should help restore calm to turbulent European currency markets.

"As a result of these decisions, the Edinburgh council will be remembered as the summit that put the Community back together and put us back on track recovery," British Prime Minister John Major told a news conference.

The initiative offered little new cash, focusing rather on ways to promote investment in major public works projects through loan guarantees and sticking to well-worn policies of clamping down on inflation and budget deficits.

Shocked by a relentless rise in unemployment across Europe and a sudden slowdown in Germany, the European Community's economic powerhouse, leaders said there were serious

grounds for concern and put together a two-pronged package of measures:

— Countries pledged to try to switch, if possible, the mix of spending in their national budgets in favour of infrastructure projects. But they made it clear that there was little room to manoeuvre and there would be no inflationary boost to demand that could increase already large deficits.

— Lending will be stepped up through the European Investment Bank (EIB) and a new "European Investment Fund."

The EIB would set up a new facility of five billion ECU (\$6.2 billion), which in turn could support projects through the "leverage" of extra funds of about \$11 billion.

The new fund, which might take five to six months to set up and would include money from commercial banks, would total two billion ECU (\$2.5 billion). The use of loan guarantees could leverage investment estimated at up to \$26 billion.

The aim of the package would be to speed up road and rail links and particularly help small and medium-sized firms.

Breaking with tradition, lead-

ers invited their finance ministers to Edinburgh for separate talks on the economy. But they were dogged by rumours that they were holding secret talks on changing currency values in the European Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM), in turmoil since summer.

Several leaders said they hoped their growth package, coupled with deals on the EC's future budget and the "Danish problem" over the Maastricht Treaty on economic and political union, help restore confidence.

"This should help bring confidence and stability back to the markets and generate confidence and growth which frankly is not there," Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds said.

Several finance ministers failed to conceal their frustration at the persistently high level of German interest rates, for many European countries the root cause of the current turbulence in the ERM. But Horst Koehler, one of Germany's top finance ministry officials, said ministers had deliberately not tabled the ERM for discussion by leaders, knowing full well that speculation over the outcome would cause even more unrest on markets.

## West German industrial orders decline for eighth straight month

BONN (R) — West German industrial orders fell in October for the eighth consecutive month, official data has showed and private economists predicted the trend would lead to the first drop in the region's factory output for 10 years.

The industrial orders slid a provisional 5.1 per cent in October from a month earlier and were down 9.7 per cent from a year earlier, the economics ministry said.

"Industry orders in West Germany... fell considerably and reflect the clear weakness in the economy," the ministry said in a statement. It revised upwards September data to show a drop of 0.2 per cent.

The figures gave a snapshot of an industrial complex which has seen monthly orders retreat since March. In October, demand for western German factory goods

fell sharply, with domestic orders down 4.7 per cent and foreign orders six per cent.

Declining corporate investment outlay hit capital goods hardest. Orders in this key sector fell seven per cent in October from September and plunged 12.4 per cent from a year earlier. Domestic orders fell down 7.4 per cent, while foreign orders slid 6.2 per cent.

The IFO Institute, one of Germany's five leading economic research institutes, said in a recent company survey industrial output would fall this year for the first time since 1982.

The steady decline in new factory orders would cause industry production to fall even further in 1993.

Based on survey of west German companies, IFO said industry output would drop by 1.5 per cent in real terms in 1992 and three per cent next year.

Engineering would be hit hardest by falling capital investment, but, combined with a weak domestic economy and low export volume, all industry sectors would be affected, IFO said.

"This is an alarm signal," Rolf Kroger, economist at the Cologne-based German Economic Institute, told German radio. Mr. Kroger said many firms had already cut back investment plans because of the weak economy and high German production costs.

High wages and corporate taxes were causing foreign investors to "swerve around Germany," he said.

Invested 29.2 billion marks (\$18.5 billion) abroad, while foreign companies invested only 1.9 billion marks (\$1.2 billion) in Germany," he said, adding: "That must make one begin to wonder."

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## Bosnian foes discuss truce again

SARAJEVO (R) — Senior officers of the warring Muslim, Croat and Serb forces met the commander of U.N. peacekeeping forces in Bosnia Sunday in a fresh attempt to bring fighting to a halt.

Talks began at Sarajevo Airport with Major-General Philippe Morillon challenging the three ethnic foes to demonstrate their commitment to a ceasefire they agreed to but have ignored.

The talks were accompanied by reports from Muslim-controlled Sarajevo Radio and the Bosnian-Serb News Agency (SRNA) of heavy fighting across the former Yugoslav republic, engulfed by war since Muslims and ethnic Croats voted for independence in March.

Gen. Morillon, who heads 7,500 U.N. troops in Bosnia, said Saturday he would press the three sides to abide by the ceasefire and added: "I am not a magician, I'm not a prophet but I think the conditions are established for negotiations."

He added: "It is up to the leaders to pay more than lip service to the peace process. We are in a vicious circle and we have to break out of this circle."

Gen. Morillon and the military envoys also discussed prospects for the demilitarisation of the besieged Bosnian capital of Sarajevo and a Serb proposal to allow free movement in and out of the city by civilians.

Fighting has worsened during the last two weeks and chances of the 18th ceasefire of the war being made to stick at Sunday's

talks were not improved by reports from the battlefields.

Sarajevo Radio said Serb gunners pounded the towns of Tuzla, Bihac, Bugojno, Tesanj and Zavidovici in the north and Capljina in the south.

It claimed allied Muslim and Croat forces launched successful counter-offensives around Gradacac in the north and Turbe, west of Sarajevo, and captured Serb-held villages.

Both sides reported fighting around Turbe Saturday.

Croat and Muslim forces Saturday launched an attack in northern Bosnia, near the Croat-held enclave of Orasje, in an attempt to cut the land corridor between Serbia proper and captured territory in Croatia, SRNA said.

According to the agency, Muslim and Croat forces launched infantry and mortar attacks during the night all the 100 kilometres length of the Serb front in southeast Bosnia.

It quoted Serb military sources as saying the attackers were reinforcing their troops in the region with more men and equipment and accused Croats of burning down Serb villages.

In Sarajevo, a U.N. official said Serb artillery fired on a repair team escorted by peacekeepers while trying to patch up damaged electrical installations and restore the city's power.

"Five rounds landed near the team," Milk Magnusson said. "It seemed quite deliberate. The Serb side fired."

He added: "It is deeply dis-

tressing for us to go out with very brave local engineers who don't have hard hats or bullet proof vests and then get shot at. It is discouraging."

Sarajevo's population of 380,000 trapped since the war began by a Serb siege, are virtually without electricity, water and heating and rely on U.N. aid for food. The temperature in the city was three below freezing Sunday.

In Banja Luka in northern Bosnia, International Red Cross officials said evacuation of the notorious Serb Manjaca detention camp was due to start Monday and that it would be emptied of its 3,000 male inmates by Friday.

Serbs, themselves short of food and resources, can no longer keep the camp going. The detainees will be taken firstly in buses to Karlovac in Croatia and then to other countries which have agreed to receive them.

The camp was opened last spring during ethnic fighting and the purge of the local Croat and Muslim populations in Serb "ethnic cleansing" operations.

Meanwhile, the commander of U.N. forces in the former Yugoslavia has warned against Western military intervention in the Bosnian war in Sunday's editions.

Lieutenant-General Satish Nambiar, who commands the United Nations Protection Force, told the newspaper in an interview in Zagreb, Croatia, that such intervention could jeopardise his 23,000 U.N. troops and ruin an aid operation aimed at helping 1.6 million people.

On Friday President-elect Bill Clinton spoke in favour of setting a new U.N. resolution enforcing the ban on Serbian flights over Bosnia-Herzegovina. And on Saturday U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said Washington will try to persuade its allies to use military force against Serbian aircraft violating the ban.

Gen. Nambiar suggested in the interview the increasing calls for military measures by Western forces may be because of the ease and speed with which U.S. troops entered Somalia to combat famine and stop gang looting of food and other aid.

"You cannot compare Bosnia and Somalia," the general was quoted as saying. "The moment you start comparing it you come to all the wrong conclusions."

Citing Bosnia's mountainous terrain, the lack of clearly drawn battle lines and an abundance of Serbian weapons, Gen. Nambiar told the Post that if the West becomes militarily involved "the whole ballgame" inside Bosnia could change.

In Edinburgh, the European Community (EC) summit piled new pressure on Serbia and Bosnian Serbs to end the Bosnian war and condemned "acts of unspeakable brutality" against Bosnian Muslim women in detention camps.

French President Francois Mitterrand announced late Saturday that his country would ask the United Nations to authorise enforcement of the no-fly zone over Bosnia.

## Indonesia quake toll climbs above 1,200

JAKARTA (AP) — The death toll from a powerful earthquake that triggered large ocean waves and flooded villages in eastern Indonesia has climbed to 1,227, the government announced Sunday.

About 1,120 of the deaths from Saturday's quake occurred in the coastal town of Maumere on the island of Flores, the governor's office of East Nusa Tenggara Province said.

At least 500 other people were injured in the quake, officials said.

Hendrik Nai, a spokesman for the rescue team, said about 80 per cent of the buildings in Maumere, in the northern part of Flores, were destroyed. Whole villages in coastal areas were

wiped out by the seismic waves, he said.

The waves, called Tsunami, were as high as 25 metres and swept as far as 300 metres inland, he said.

Mr. Nai said bad communications still were hampering the task of gathering information from some parts of the island, which is about 1,600 kilometres east of Jakarta.

The earthquake measured a preliminary 6.8 on the Richter Scale, according to Indonesian officials. The U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, California, measured it at 7.5 on the Richter Scale.

A quake of that strength is capable of causing extensive damage.

Gov. Hendrik Fernandez visited Maumere Sunday and was shocked to see the devastation, spokesman J. Gadidjou said.

He said ships were bringing volunteers, food and medicine from nearby towns to the damaged areas.

The quake destroyed government buildings, schools, mosques, churches and shops in Maumere and Larantaka on the eastern part of the island.

Most of the buildings on the island are single story structures made of wood and brick. The island is a poor, mountainous area which exports copra and grows maize and rice.

Aftershocks occurring around every five minutes hampered rescue work until midnight Saturday, Mr. Nai said.

## 220 Hindus held in India; riots ease

LUCKNOW, India (AP) — Police arrested 220 members of outlawed Hindu fundamentalist groups blamed for religious riots, an official said Sunday.

More than 1,150 people were killed in the riots, which followed last week's destruction of a 16th century mosque by Hindu fundamentalists.

There was no serious violence Sunday, but tension continued to prevail in many places, news reports said.

The arrests were made overnight in a crackdown in various parts of Uttar Pradesh, the northern state where Hindu militants tore down the mosque on Dec. 6.

On Thursday, the federal government banned three Hindu fundamentalist groups blamed for the campaign that led to the mosque's destruction and the

wave of communal violence that followed.

The Hindus say the mosque was built by Muslim conquerors on the birthplace of the Hindu god Rama and have vowed to build a temple on the site.

The government has promised to rebuild the mosque.

Among those arrested were Devi Dux Singh and Rajinder Agnihotri, members of parliament from the Hindu fundamentalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the political wing of outlawed Hindu group Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS).

The leaders were charged with inciting religious hatred, said D.K. Goswami, adviser to the state government.

In Calcutta, police arrested seven BJP leaders Sunday on

charges of disturbing communal peace, United News of India news agency said. The arrests were made just before the leaders were to visit riot-torn neighbourhoods.

The government has banned three Hindu groups — RSS, World Hindu Council, and Bajrang Dal — and two Muslim fundamentalist groups the Jamiat-E-Islami and Islamic "Sevak Sangh. They cannot operate offices and bank accounts and are barred from holding meetings.

Meanwhile, in Lucknow, in an attempt to ease communal tension, authorities were sending teams of well known Hindu and Muslim residents to neighbourhoods where curfew is in force.

## Yeltsin seems set to keep Gaidar

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin seems likely to keep his favoured economic helmsman as head of government — at least for four more months — after a trial of strength with Russia's mutinous legislature.

Mr. Yeltsin and the Congress of People's Deputies agreed a compromise deal Saturday to end an acute political crisis that had threatened to divide the vast country.

Under a nine-point package, Russia will hold a referendum on April 11 to decide the outlines of a new constitution.

The compromise allows the president, battling the conservative-dominated congress to push ahead with radical economic reform, to have the final word on the choice of prime minister.

Under the deal, congress will vote on several candidates for prime minister and Mr. Yeltsin

will nominate Monday one of the top three for the post.

Most deputies say this, in all likelihood, will be Acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaidar, a free market radical and pivotal figure in Russia's economic reform drive.

If congress rejects Mr. Yeltsin's nomination of Mr. Gaidar he will at least be able to keep him as acting prime minister until April. "If that person does not win a majority, I shall appoint Yegor Gaidar as acting head of government until the eighth congress," Mr. Yeltsin told Moscow Channel One Television.

Mr. Gaidar, 36, has been at the centre of a trial of strength between Yeltsin and the congress. Its conservative deputies say Mr. Gaidar's stewardship of the economy has driven people to poverty.

When congress rejected Mr. Gaidar's nomination as full prime

minister last Wednesday, Mr. Yeltsin verbally savaged the legislature and then, over the heads of deputies, appealed to the people to throw it out in a referendum.

Meanwhile, EC leaders expressed strong support for Mr. Yeltsin's reform programme as the Russian president fought for control in Moscow's political crisis.

"The Russian government, under the authority of president Yeltsin, has brought in practical reform measures of historic significance," the leaders said in a declaration issued early Sunday after the end of their Edinburgh summit.

"We strongly support the process of transformation now under way aimed at a free, united and prosperous Russia," they said, adding: "Substantial progress has been made in only one year, despite the inevitable difficulties."

## Sinn Fein member killed in Belfast

BELFAST (Agencies) — A Sinn Fein member shot by a gunman died Sunday morning in hospital, police said.

Press Association, the British News Agency, reported that the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters had admitted carrying out the killing.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) said Malahy Carey, 36, was shot once by a gunman who confronted him Saturday evening on the street in Ballinacorney, 65 kilometres northwest of Belfast.

An RUC spokeswoman said one man was helping people with their investigation and a car was being examined.

Mr. Carey ran for local government three years ago as a representative of Sinn Fein, the legal, political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Press Association reported that Mr. Carey had served a lengthy prison sentence for terrorist-related offences but did not say when the prison sentence was or give details of the offences.

Meanwhile, security chiefs are mounting an unprecedented operation to try to thwart IRA guerrillas who have stepped up a pre-Christmas bombing campaign on the British mainland.

Britain has responded to a spate of bombings and threatened attacks by setting up roadblocks manned by armed police, a sign of official concern.

The checkpoints are commonplace in Northern Ireland, where the IRA seeks to end British rule, but in the past the authorities resisted their deployment on the mainland.

Major security measures against the IRA were in force for the summit of European Community leaders which ended in Edinburgh, Scotland, Saturday.

"We're heaving a sigh of relief that Edinburgh passed off without incident," said one security source.

## Italians vote in local elections

ROME (R) — A million people are expected to cast their votes Sunday in keenly-watched local elections widely seen as a referendum on Italy's entire political system.

Protest groups ranging from anti-mafia campaigners to the separatist Northern Leagues are set to make big gains on a wave of popular disillusion against the country's traditional parties.

"More than a vote, this is a judgement," commented La Stampa newspaper. "Today voters must decide whether to help the old system survive or hasten its demise."

Public support for Italy's main

stream parties has fallen dramatically as economic chaos, feeble administration and a devastating corruption scandal take their toll.

Umberto Bossi, leader of the Northern Leagues, is set to be the big winner but major gains are also expected by far left and right groups.

In a country where until only a few years ago a swing of more than two or three per cent was seen as a landslide, parties like the dominant Christian Democrats and their Socialist allies are expected to see their vote halve in some towns.

"I've never seen such a radical change," said Nicola Piepoli, director of the private CIRM forecasting institute.

"The market is firmly in the hands of the protestors now — the historical parties are very much on the defensive."

Fifty-five town councils and one provincial assembly are up for election, many of which have either collapsed under the weight of corruption or fallen into mafia hands.

They range from the wealthy northern centres of Varese and Monza to the crime-infested southern city of Reggio Calabria and Castellammare di Stabia near Naples, one of the most violent towns in Western Europe.

Some were accompanied by members and friends to their knees. Other kneepads.

Bosnians defend British army the rugby field.

ZENICA, Bosnia (R) British army was defeated in a charity rugby match at a charity rugby match.

Cefik Rugby Club, seven champions of former Yugoslavia had challenged the British Barbarians. The British prepared, parking their armoured vehicles outside the 25 kilometres from the Armed guards patrol touchline. At half time Cheshires' regimental is contained several hundred tons, whose ticket was destined for a fund to sufferers in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

High Court sides with rap group if album is not obscene

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Supreme Court has a ruling that the sexually explicit album "as nasty as they be" by the rap group 2 Live Crew was not obscene.

The court refused to review a ruling by the 11th U.S. appeals court that a sheriff who took the group failed to prove the album was obscene. Attorneys for the group argued that the album was not obscene.

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## Angola seizes S. African plane in Huambo

LISBON (Agencies) — The Angolan government has seized a South African light aircraft which made an unauthorised landing in the central city of Huambo and has arrested all four people on board, Angolan state radio said.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the Cessna plane had flown in from Oshakati in northern Namibia with a South African military pilot and three journalists on board.

The journalists apparently planned to interview Jonas Savimbi, the leader of Angola's former rebel movement UNITA, who retreated to Huambo, a UNITA stronghold, after rejecting UNITA's defeat in elections last September.

A Portuguese Television crew who flew to Huambo to interview Mr. Savimbi earlier this week reported that UNITA forces controlled the airport.

Government officials and UNITA rebels accused each other Saturday of massing troops in neighbouring countries for attacks into Angola.

The charges are the latest in a series of events that have increased doubts over a pledge made several days ago by the rebels to join the coalition government and halt fighting.

UNITA accused the Angolan government of massing troops across the border in Namibia for an attack on Jamba, a rebel stronghold 750 kilometres south of Luanda, South African Channel Africa radio reported.

Channel Africa, South Africa's external service, also said UNITA rebels backed by mercenaries were grouped in Zaire, just across Angola's northern border.

Neither government nor UNITA officials were available to confirm the reports.

Mr. Savimbi, speaking on Portuguese Television hours after the radio report, said UNITA would concede the disputed September elections if the government would resume negotiations.

### WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Liechtenstein to join European market

VADUZ, Liechtenstein (R) — Liechtenstein's voters decided Sunday by a margin of 55.8 per cent to 44.2 per cent in favour of joining the European Economic Area (EEA), official results showed. The result came one week after the country's economic "big brother," neighbouring Switzerland, threw out the same treaty. The EEA is a large common market which seeks to bring the members of the European Free Trade Agreement (EFTA) into the European Community's single market. The official turnout was 87 per cent.

#### Khmer Rouge shell U.N. peacekeepers

SANTUK, Cambodia (R) — Militant Khmer Rouge guerrillas fired artillery shells at U.N. peacekeepers, marking a dramatic deterioration in relations between the hardline faction and the blue berets, a U.N. official said. "Two shells landed 75 metres in front of our tent and one, 30 metres behind," said Nikolay Nikolaev, a U.N. election-team supervisor for the Santuk district in strife-torn, central Kompong Thom province. "The shells were directly aimed at the tent," the Bulgarian official told Reuters Saturday. He said he believed it was the first time U.N. personnel had been the target of a deliberate shelling attack. The shelling occurred in Kranya commune on the night of Dec. 6 and was ordered by the commander of the Khmer Rouge's 802 Regiment, Mr. Nikolayev said. No U.N. personnel were injured by the shells, he added. On Dec. 7, the local Khmer Rouge commander handed a letter to Indonesian U.N. soldiers ordering the U.N. to leave Kranya, 120 kilometres north of Phnom Penh, the capital.

#### Cattle raiders kill 89 Kenyans

NAIROBI (R) — Sudanese tribal raiders massacred 89 Kenyan nomads, mostly women and children, in a remote area of north-west Kenya before making off with their livestock, police said. The raiders, who belonged to the Toposa and Dongrio tribes and attacked a manyatta (nomadic settlement) at Kokoru near the Sudanese border Saturday, were armed with sophisticated firearms and other weapons, police officials added. They killed 15 men, 32 women and 42 children and stole more than 7,000 cattle, goats, camels and donkeys, the officials said. Clashes between local tribes, usually resulting in theft of cattle and other livestock, are common in this semi-desert area but Saturday's raid was the most serious for several years.

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